PRESIDENT: It is very remote and has nothing at all to do with the original question put by the Member.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Then, I beg your pardon, Sir.

The Resident Medical Officer.

275. **MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Ambalapuzha*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are no rules insisting on the presence of the Resident Medical Officer attached to the General Hospital, Trivandrum, during specified hours in the General Hospital?

(2) Have not instances been brought to the notice of the departmental heads, where the Resident Medical Officer was not found at his post when patients or injured people were taken to the said hospital requiring urgent attention?

(3) Has any explanation been called for from the aforesaid officer to account for his absence on such occasions? If so, will the Government be pleased to disclose a few explanations as a sample?

(4) Have the Government made any arrangement to prevent a recurrence of such absence on the part of the Resident Medical Officer?

(5) Who is the present Resident Medical Officer? When was he appointed as such? Who was the Darbar Physician when he was appointed to his present post?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) There are rules insisting on the presence of the Resident Medical Officer *in the General Hospital* between 6 and 11 A. M. and 4 to 5 P. M. and *in his quarters* at all other times except 5 to 7 P. M. To attend to emergent cases between 5 and 7. P. M., the other assistant medical officers take duty in the hospital by turns.

(2) There is only one instance of a complaint having been received by the Surgeon in charge of the Darbar Physician's duties from Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai that his clerk who had injured his finger on the 30th November 1925, was not attended to as soon as he went to the Hospital at 3 P. M.

(3) No explanation was called for from the Resident Medical Officer as it was clear that he was not to blame.

(4) In view of the answer to part (3) above, this does not arise.

(5) Assistant Surgeon, J. I. Gomez, is the present Resident Medical Officer. He was appointed as such on the 1st Chingam 1099. Dr. Peter N. Lakshmanan was the Darbar Physician at that time.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): Am I to understand from the answer to part (1) that there is no necessity to attend to any urgent cases if a person is taken there after 11 A. M. and before 4 P. M.?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): During that time the Resident Medical Officer will be in his quarters. He can be sent for.

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MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Are the rules, insisting on the medical officer to remain at his quarters during that time, liable to be violated?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I do not understand the question.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*): I will explain it. The rules seem to contemplate that except during 6 and 11 A. M. and 4 and 5 P. M. the Resident Medical Officer is to be in his quarters. If, during the time he is required to be in his quarters, an urgent case comes up, is he to be in his quarters all the time or is he at liberty to be at any other place?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : If an urgent case is brought in, he can be sent for as he will be in his quarters.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : How far are the quarters of the Resident Medical Officer from the General Hospital?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): They are very near. But I do not know the exact distance.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Do not the Government consider it desirable to have a permanent building assigned to the medical officer in the hospital compound itself?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is a proposal to that effect.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a report in the *Malayali* that a girl who fell into a well was taken to—

PRESIDENT : Does the Member vouch for the accuracy of the report contained in the *Malayalee*?

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha*) : I am only asking whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to that report.

PRESIDENT : This House has nothing to do with statements contained in newspapers unless the Member vouches for their accuracy. Government do not take action on unguaranteed newspaper reports.

Cost of collection of Land Revenue.

276. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*) : What is the yearly cost of collection of land revenue for the last six years?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : Separate figures showing the cost of collecting land revenue alone are not available. The actual cost on account of the working of the Land Revenue Department will be found in the printed budgets of the State issued from year to year.

Night Schools.

277. **MR. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Trivandrum* cum *Neduvangad*): How many night schools imparting instruction to illiterate adults are now in receipt of help from the Government?

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